



OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRWOMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

State of California
ACOGP2340150

Greetings Scott Adams,

As you are well aware, unless Congress provides additional funding, this is the final month of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). As the ACP comes to a close, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to you as our outreach partners and outreach grantees. You have played an integral role in the ACP's success. I am grateful for the work you have done and I want you to know that legislative efforts are ongoing in Congress to explore ways to extend the program and provide additional funding for the ACP.

The ACP, which was created in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, is the largest broadband affordability program in our Nation's history. Before the enrollment freeze on February 8, 2024, over 23 million households—one in six nationwide—enrolled in the program from across urban, rural, and suburban America.

Reaching this many households never would have been possible without the on-the-ground outreach by trusted community messengers like your organization. Your work has helped raise awareness of the program and support enrollment for households in need. This was supported by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which made it possible for the Federal Communications Commission to support community outreach, leading us to award \$77 million in funding to over 240 state, local, Tribal, and non-profit organizations nationwide. These funds went to locally-tailored door-to-door and digital campaigns, direct mail and flyer distributions, in-person events, and more in order to reach underserved and unserved communities where many eligible households live and work. So many more households were able to learn about this program—and sign up—thanks to your efforts.

Although this is not the finale any of us envisioned for the ACP, we achieved something many denied before and you knew all along: that if we want to reach 100 percent of us with broadband, we need to have programs like this to address internet affordability. As the ACP demonstrated, these programs can help everyone, everywhere get access to the high-speed internet service that is so essential for modern life. While for now the ACP is coming to an end, closing the digital divide remains a priority for the Commission. For this reason, we ask that as you communicate with households that may be affected by the end of this program, keep in mind that some may also be eligible to sign up for the Commission's Lifeline program. Lifeline provides a \$9.25 monthly benefit for internet service or bundled phone and internet services (or up to \$34.25 monthly for subscribers residing on Tribal lands) for some low-income households.

While the Lifeline program will not fully replace the ACP benefit and has different requirements under the law, it may be able to help alleviate the pressure ACP households will face after the end of the program. You can find more information on Lifeline program eligibility requirements and participating providers at: www.lifelinesupport.org/. You may also access the Lifeline Program Consumer Advocate Toolkit at: <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/wp-content/uploads/documents/community-education/Lifeline-Consumer-Toolkit04.06.23.pdf>. In addition, the Commission is available to provide training regarding the Lifeline program and its enrollment process. To request training, please email Outreach@fcc.gov for assistance. I am also enclosing with this letter state-by-state ACP and Lifeline enrollment data, and a fact sheet outlining the differences between Lifeline and the ACP, which may be a useful tool for discussions with households that have relied on this program.

Thank you again for your partnership and the work that you are doing to help impacted ACP households during this transition. We look forward to continuing to work with you to help close the digital divide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Rosenworcel", written over a light grey rectangular background.

Jessica Rosenworcel